

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/655,008	05/29/96	SCHWEITZER	E

CLARK A PUNTIGAM  
JENSEN & PUNTIGAM  
1020 UNITED AIRLINES BUILDING  
2033 SIXTH AVENUE  
SEATTLE WA 98121-2584

26M1/0821

EXAMINER

YAO, K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2603	8

DATE MAILED: 08/21/97

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

**Office Action Summary**

Application No. <b>08/655,008</b>	Applicant(s) <b>Schweitzer III et al.</b>
Examiner <b>Kwang Bin Yao</b>	Group Art Unit <b>2603</b>

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 14, 1997.

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

**Disposition of Claims**

Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

**Attachment(s)**

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The finality of the rejection of the last Office action is withdrawn. The Amendment filed 7/14/97 has been entered.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. The indicated allowability of claims 1-7 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Sun et al. (US 4,972,290). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Sun et al. (US 4,972,290).

Sun et al. discloses a monitoring and control system 1 for a group of protective relays depicted in Fig. 1 comprising: slave station 19 associated with analog relay 3 including a

microcomputer 33 for digitized the voltage and current into samples from the relay 3 at analog to digital converter 37, depicted in Fig. 3 (means for formatting); master station 17 for polling the slave station and receiving data from it for any contact activity at step 111 depicted in Fig. 7 (means for transmitting, means for receiving); the master station 171 for determining the flags in the received data at step 141 (means for verifying); master station 171 for computing the distance to the fault by using the received data at step 147 (means for obtaining and utilizing obtained output bits as input bits in its own fault determination calculation process). (See Figs. 1, 3, 6, and 7, columns 4-5, and 7).

### *Conclusion*

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Chiba et al. (US 5,428,553) discloses a digital control and protection equipment for power system.

Sukegawa et al. (US 5,576,625) discloses a test method for testing a protective relay system.

Buda et al. (US 5,311,508) discloses an apparatus for receiving and decoding a serial data packet containing the status of a network of single point I/O device.

Buda et al. (US 5,283,781) discloses an apparatus for receiving and modifying a serial data packet from a communication network to indicate its status.

Art Unit: 2603

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kwang Bin Yao whose telephone number is (703) 308-7583. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Olms, can be reached on (703) 305-4703.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

7. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 305-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 308-5403 (for informal or draft communications, please label  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal  
Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Kwang Bin Yao

August 15, 1997

*Alpus H. Hsu*  
ALPUS H. HSU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 2600